

REMARKS

Counsel thanks Examiner R. Madsen for the courtesy of interviews held on August 8 and 21, 2002. Examiner Madsen's indication of allowable subject matter of all pending claims in page 4 of the Office Action is also noted with appreciation.

Accordingly, Applicants have made appropriate amendment to immediately place the instant application in condition for allowance. In particular, claims 10, 14, 20 and 23-24 have been amended in the manner kindly suggested by Examiner Madsen in pages 4-5 of the Office Action. Claim 12 has been cancelled; therefore the *35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraph* rejections of claim 12 is moot.

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims in the instant application, i.e., 10-11, 13-18 and 20-29 are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kenneth M. Berner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth M. Berner
Registration No. 37,093

USPTO Customer No. 22429
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 310
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 684-1111
(703) 518-5499 Facsimile
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KMB/lcw



MARKED-UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

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TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

Please cancel claim 12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 10, 14, 20, 23 and 24as follows:

10. (Twice Amended) A container, comprising:
an outer bag;

a first inner bag accommodated in said outer bag and filled with a liquid, said first inner bag being equipped with an internal heating element for heating said liquid thereby raising a pressure of said liquid inside said first inner bag, said first inner bag being made liquid-impermeable except at least for a [liquid] vapor-releasing hole that is positioned in an upper part thereof and closed by a first seal configured to open when the pressure of said liquid reaches a predetermined level thereby allowing said heated liquid to escape said first inner bag as vapor; and

a second inner bag accommodated in said outer bag and containing therein a substance to be mixed with said [liquid] vapor, said second inner bag being made liquid permeable at least partially for allowing said heated liquid, after escaping said first inner bag as vapor, to enter said second inner bag and to heat and be mixed with said substance;

said outer bag having a vapor-releasing hole that is formed at the top of said outer bag and closed by a second seal configured to open when a pressure inside said outer bag reaches a predetermined value, and a liquid-releasing hole formed at the bottom of said outer bag [for selectively discharging said heated and mixed liquid].

14. (Amended) The container of claim 10, wherein said second inner bag is bonded to the bottom of said outer bag [whereby only said heated and mixed liquid can be discharged from said outer bag].

20. (Twice Amended) A container, comprising:
an outer bag;

a first inner bag accommodated in said outer bag and filled with a liquid, said first inner bag

being made liquid-impermeable except at least for a [liquid] vapor-releasing hole that is positioned in an upper part thereof and closed by a first seal configured to open when a pressure inside said first inner bag reaches a predetermined level by heating said liquid, thereby allowing said heated liquid to escape said first inner bag as vapor; and

a second closed inner bag accommodated in said outer bag and containing therein a substance to be mixed with said [liquid] vapor, said second inner bag being made liquid permeable at least partially for allowing said liquid, after escaping said first inner bag as vapor, to enter said second inner bag and to heat and be mixed with said substance.

23. (Amended) The container of claim 20, wherein said outer bag has a liquid releasing hole formed at the bottom of said outer bag [for selectively discharging said heated and mixed liquid].

24. (Amended) The container of claim 23, wherein said second inner bag is bonded to the bottom of said outer bag [whereby only said heated and mixed liquid can be discharged from said outer bag].